

Animals of Hot Lands

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Camel

The camel is a sandy brown color. It has a hump on its back. The camel's neck is long and curved. Its feet are large and padded. It walks easily on its long legs. Camels live in hot, dry deserts. They can store food in their hump. Camels eat grass and leaves. They can live for days without eating or drinking. Camels can go on long journeys.



Crocodile

The crocodile never stops growing. Its skin is covered with bony plates. The crocodile has long, powerful jaws. It has sharp and dangerous teeth. Baby crocodiles hatch from eggs. Crocodiles live near tropical rivers. They wait for animals to come to the river. Crocodiles can lie very still. They grab other animals underwater. They eat their food by the legs.



Elephant

The elephant is the biggest land animal. Its skin is gray and wrinkly. The elephant's tusks are made of ivory. It has a long, bendy trunk. Baby elephants have to learn to use their trunk. Elephants eat leaves, grass, and bark. They eat for eighteen hours every day. Elephants need to live near a water hole. They use their trunks for eating and drinking. They do not sleep for long.



Giraffe

The giraffe is the tallest of all animals. It has a very long neck. The giraffe has very long legs. It has brown patches on its skin. Baby giraffes stand up as soon as they are born. Giraffes eat leaves and shoots. The leaves give them enough water to live on. They live in dry places near trees. They can reach twigs with their long tongue. Giraffes sleep standing up.



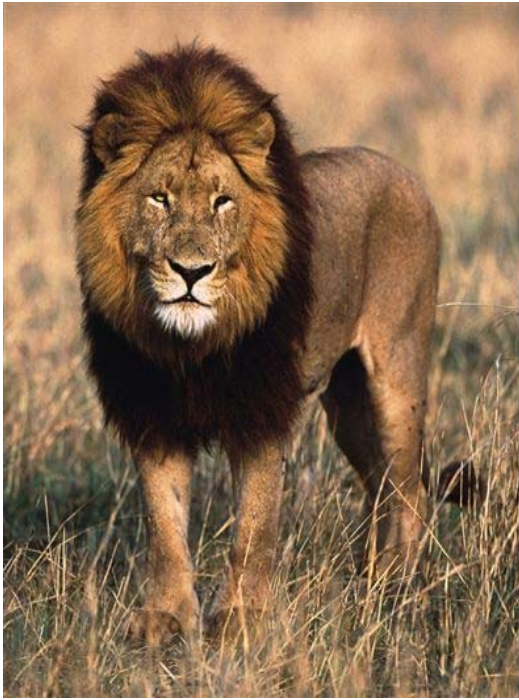
Gorilla

The gorilla is the largest ape. It has black skin and black hair. The gorilla has long arms and short legs. It walks on its feet and knuckles. As it gets older, its hair turns gray. Gorillas live in the rainforests. They eat leaves, stems, and fruit. Gorillas travel around in groups. They beat their chests to scare off enemies. They are very strong but also shy and gentle.



Hippopotamus

The hippopotamus is one of the heaviest animals. It has very short legs. The hippopotamus has a huge mouth. Its small eyes and ears are on top of its head. The mother has just one baby at a time. Hippopotamuses bathe in mud. In the evening, they eat grass and plants. Hippos spend the daytime in the river. Only their eyes and ears show above the water. Some people call them 'river horses'.



Lion

The lion is a very large cat. It has strong claws. The lion has very sharp teeth. It can move fast and pounce. Baby lions are carried by the scruff of the neck. Lions live in groups called prides. They usually hunt at twilight. They eat antelopes and zebras. Female lions do most of the hunting. A lion's roar can be heard miles away.



Rhinoceros

The rhinoceros is one of the largest animals. It has two horns on its nose. The rhinoceros has a tough, leathery hide. Its legs are short and thick. A baby rhinoceros lives alone with its mother. Rhinoceroses eat grasses and ground plants. They like to wallow in muddy pools. Rhinoceroses usually live alone. They have good hearing but cannot see well. Mud baths keep them cool.



Tiger

The tiger is the biggest of all cats. It has huge front paws. The tiger's coat is orange and black. Its body is strong and agile. Baby tigers are helpless when they are born. Tigers live in grasslands and swampy forests. They stalk other animals to kill and eat. They hunt alone at night. Tigers love water and are good swimmers. They kill their prey by biting its neck.



Zebra

The zebra is a horse with black and white stripes. It can run

faster than a lion. Each zebra has a different coat. It can see, smell, and hear very well. Baby zebras are called foals. Zebras live on open grasslands. They eat the tips of the grass. They live together in herds. Zebras are hunted by lions and people. They are always alert and ready to run.